

RE: SB 521 - Jenna's Law Amendment

Dear Senate Education Committee Chair and Committee members,

I am writing in support of the OSAA recommended amendments to Jenna's Law. I helped testify for Max's Law in 2009 regarding concussions which was a national landmark legislation regarding concussion care that has worked superbly except that it left out non-school clubs, teams and other entities that run youth sports programs. I also testified Jenna's Law which was intended to simply expand on Max's Law to include non-school teams with no other major revisions. Unfortunately some aspects of Jenna's Law have complicated concussion care consistency, the most significant of which is the phrases regarding "non-public schools" which was intended to read "non-high school" teams since Max's Law only technically applied to school teams. Also, there is some wording regarding the logistics of how officials exclude those with concussions that differs from Max's Law including how sideline Certified Athletic Trainers(ATC) can participate in returning a player if they determine that they do not have a concussion after sideline evaluation (eg. that they were actually dehydrated not concussed).

In summary, I fully support the OSAA recommendations for amendments to Jenna's Law without any other significant changes from Max's Law regarding the return to play medical clearance and return to play process overall. I apologize for not being available to testify in person. Please contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jim Chesnutt

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